

House Committee on Global Warming and Climate Change Hearing
Wednesday June 20, 2012 10AM
Testimony of Steven Clarke, Assistant Secretary for Energy

- Thank you Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee for the opportunity to share brief remarks on behalf of EEA Secretary Richard Sullivan regarding MassDOT's Draft GreenDOT implementation plan. We want to commend the hard and productive work MassDOT has invested in the development of a policy vital to the success of The Global Warming Solutions Act (GWSA).
- Thanks to the leadership of both Governor Patrick, and the Legislature, Massachusetts now has the most ambitious Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions reduction limits of any state in the entire country. Governor Patrick signed the GWSA into law August of 2008.
- The GWSA mandates a minimum 80% reduction in GHG emissions from 1990 levels by 2050, and tasked EEA with determining the GHG reduction limit for 2020. After conducting a rigorous stakeholder outreach process, policy analysis, and public hearings, EEA established a 25% reduction from 1990 levels limit for 2020, and we issued The Massachusetts Clean Energy and Climate Plan for 2020 in late December 2010.
- In that plan, we developed a portfolio of policies related to Buildings, Electricity, Transportation, Non-energy emissions and in areas that cut across sectors. Implementing this broad package of policies will reduce our emissions by 27% by 2020 and get us well on our way to meeting the ultimate 80% reduction goals by 2050.
- We recently shifted our focus from developing the 2020 plan to implementing it. We will measure our progress towards meeting our targets, and we recently held the kick off meeting of our Implementation Advisory Committee which will advise us on our implementation of the

GWSA. Our transportation sector makes up a significant percentage of our GHG emissions (second only to our Buildings sector), which is why 7.6% of the GHG reductions for 2020 will be derived from the transportation sector, and MassDOT's GreenDOT Plan will play a pivotal role in reducing the carbon intensity of our transportation system.

- Green DOT's focus on "reducing greenhouse gas emissions" and tracking progress is highlighted in a series of critical tasks that includes increasing vehicle electrification facilities, use of renewable fuels, increased efficiency of light duty vehicles, increased fuel efficiency of maintenance equipment, and increase in telecommuting where appropriate. As a major consumer of electricity, DOT has also tasked itself with using less energy, which will in itself (due to its use of fossil fuels) have broad positive impacts in lowering greenhouse gas emissions
- MassDOT Secretary Rich Davey, EEA Secretary Richard Sullivan and EOHED Secretary Greg Bialecki have been working closely on implementing the GWSA and our agencies will continue this collaboration as the implementation plan progresses. I greatly appreciate the opportunity to speak today and thank you for your time.